

## AMENDMENTS

### IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Cancelled).
6. (Currently Amended). An injection unit for an injection molding machine for processing thermoplastic material, said molding machine having a screw guided ~~in~~in a cylinder, comprising a first motor coupled to said screw for axially moving said screw in said cylinder for injecting said thermoplastic material, wherein its axial motion is driven by a spindle and a direct drive coupled by with a spindle nut, said spindle nut being directly driven by said first motor, and  
  
a second motor coupled to said screw by a gear mechanism for rotating said screw for preparing said thermoplastic material for injection, said gear mechanism reducing the rotational speed of said screw relative to said second motor to a speed appropriate for the preparation of said material for injection, wherein the two motors, gear mechanism and spindle nut, apart from rotatory motion, are stationary, and the spindle is rotatably and displaceably arranged between the spindle nut and the screw.
7. (Previously Presented). The injection unit according to claim 6, wherein the gear mechanism is blocked during the operation of injecting the thermoplastic material.
8. (Canceled)
9. (Previously Presented) The injection unit according to claim 7, wherein a belt-pulley gear is provided as the gear mechanism.
10. (Cancelled)

11. (New). An injection unit for an injection molding machine for processing thermoplastic material, comprising:

a screw guided in a cylinder,

a spindle having a first end axially attached to said screw and a second end,

a first motor directly driving a spindle nut which is engaged with said spindle to create an axial motion of said screw in said cylinder for injecting said thermoplastic material,

a second motor coupled to said second end of said spindle by a gear mechanism for rotating said screw for preparing said thermoplastic material for injection, said gear mechanism reducing the rotational speed of said screw relative to said second motor to a speed appropriate for the preparation of said material for injection, wherein the two motors, gear mechanism and spindle nut, apart from rotatory motion, are stationary, and the spindle and screw are rotatably and displaceably arranged.

12. (NEW). The injection unit according to claim 11, wherein the gear mechanism is blocked during the operation of injecting the thermoplastic material.

13. (NEW) The injection unit according to claim 7, wherein a belt-pulley gear is provided as the gear mechanism.

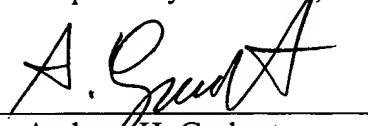
Applicants do not believe that any fees are due at this time; however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason relating to this document, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct the fees from Deposit Account No. 02-0383, (*formerly Baker & Botts, L.L.P.*) Order Number (071308.0218).

If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference or an interview would advance prosecution of this Application in any manner, the undersigned agent for Applicant stands ready to conduct such a conference at the convenience of the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 23, 2004

By: \_\_\_\_\_



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